

## **REMARKS**

**With respect to the examiner's remarks (1) and (2),** the inventor acknowledges the examiner's statements without comment.

**With respect to the examiner's remarks (3) and (4),** the inventor acknowledges the examiner's rejection of claim 51 and hereby cancels claim 51.

**With respect to the examiner's remark (5),** the inventor acknowledges the examiner's statement without comment.

**With respect to the examiner's remark (6),** the inventor acknowledges the examiner's rejection of claims 48 and 49, and hereby cancels claims 48 and 49.

**With respect to the examiner's remark (7),** the inventor acknowledges the examiner's allowance of the subject matter of method claims 50 and 53. Claims 50 and 53 have been rewritten, as amended herein, so as to contain the limiting information referenced from the now-canceled solid-chemical composition claims.

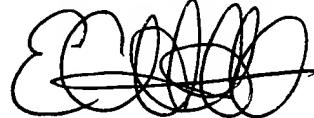
## **CONCLUSION**

For all of the above reasons, applicant submits that the claims are now in proper form, and that the rewritten claims (as amended) define patentably over the prior art. Therefore, applicant submits that this application is now in condition for allowance, which action he respectfully solicits.

**Conditional Request for Constructive Assistance**

Applicant has amended this application so as to define the present invention by claims that are proper and definite, and which define a subject matter that is novel and also unobvious. If, for any reason, this application is not believed to be in full condition for allowance, applicant respectfully requests the constructive assistance and suggestions of the Examiner pursuant to M.P.E.P. §2173.02 and §707.07(j) in order that the undersigned can place this application in allowable condition as soon as possible and without the need for further proceedings.

Very respectfully,



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**Certificate of Facsimile Transmission:** I certify that on the date below this document and referenced attachments, if any, have been transmitted to the examiner at the facsimile number provided by the examiner: (703) 872-9713.

February 27, 2002



Eric C. Hince, Applicant

### **Attachment - Revised Claims**

50. A method for anaerobic bioremediation whereby a solid-chemical composition comprising a granular source of Manganese (IV) is applied to contaminated geologic media within a remediation trench, slurry-wall, semi-permeable barrier, or well-packing material, whereby said source of Mn(IV) is one or more selected from the group consisting of glauconite, manganese greensand, and pyrolusite, and whereby said Mn(IV) serves as an electron acceptor for manganese-reducing bacteria and other anaerobic bacteria.
  
53. A method for anaerobic bioremediation whereby a solid-chemical composition comprising a source of Fe(III) containing minerals is applied to contaminated geologic media within a remediation trench, slurry-wall, semi-permeable barrier or well-packing material, whereby said source of Fe(III) containing minerals are one or more selected from the group consisting of Fe(III) hydroxides and oxyhydroxides, and whereby said Fe(III) serves as an electron acceptor for iron-reducing bacteria and other anaerobic bacteria.